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GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS  
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# Massachusetts Legislative Research Bureau

## INDEX

of

SPECIAL REPORTS AUTHORIZED BY THE GENERAL  
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1900 - 1988

(SIXTH EDITION)

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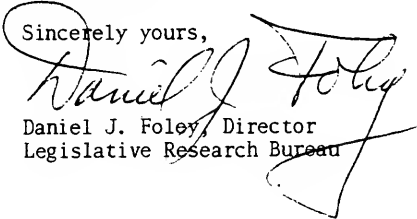
To the Members of the General Court

In 1957, the Legislative Research Bureau, with the assistance of staff at the State Library, prepared the first edition of this Index. In that document were listed nearly all the reports of standing committees, special commissions or executive agencies, which resulted from study directives or requests from the General Court since 1900.

Periodically, the Research Bureau has prepared new editions, reflecting the need to keep the Index as current as is feasible. Particularly, in this era of high technology, there is greater need, by both the public and private sectors, to be aware of the findings and recommendations of specialized study groups which have looked at most of our complex economic, social and environmental problems. This Index is the key that facilitates access to a wealth of information and data, much of which is still the grist of legislation yet to be written.

We publish this Sixth Edition in a format that is easier to read and which incorporates hundreds of new entries since the last edition was published in 1979. Our special thanks to Mary McLellan and Pamela Schofield at the State Library who reviewed this manuscript for possible omissions. My Administrative Assistant, Anne Dziak, designed the cover, and Theresa Conway, our chief secretary, is responsible for the final form of the entire document; her hours of patience and effort bear obvious fruit in the pages that follow.

Sincerely yours,

  
Daniel J. Foley, Director  
Legislative Research Bureau

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## PREFACE TO SIXTH EDITION

Historically, only standing legislative committees gathered information for the Legislature. They became firmly established by the end of the 18th Century, for a time making printed reports available at the same sessions as those at which bills were referred to them. Within a few decades, joint standing committees were in operation.

Around the middle of the 19th Century the General Court began to authorize study commissions which included gubernatorial appointees as part of their membership. During this period, the Legislature requested departments and other agencies to make reports. These practices were well entrenched by the turn of the 20th Century.

The resultant reports, which were printed as numbered legislative documents, are classified in the Index by subject. Specifically, the document includes most of the reports prepared by standing and special legislative committees, recess or interim committees and commissions, all Research Council printed reports, as well as almost all special reports which the General Court directed state departments and other agencies to prepare.

In addition to the above reports, citations of legislative documents of general interest that merit recognition are included, e.g., some Governors' Messages because of their particular value in presenting background information on legislative proposals; and important addresses of widespread interest, such as President Kennedy's "City Upon a Hill" speech.

### Guide to Index

The Index is more of a "descriptive-word" listing than a "topical" index. To facilitate ready reference, free use has been made of standard and colloquial titles and phrases, the names of cities, towns and individuals, and the like. Numerous cross references have been inserted.

The reports are listed alphabetically by subject and are identified by two sets of numbers, with rare exceptions - (1) two digits to show the session year of the General Court in which the report was printed, and (2) legislative document numbers preceded by the letters S or H to indicate Senate or House, respectively. Thus, 56 S 444 refers to the 1956 session and to Senate document 444 of that year; and 33 H 336 to House document 336 of 1933.

A few items could not be covered by this form of citation. They relate to reports which do not have legislative document numbers and hence can be identified only by their titles and the years when they were published; in some cases, the Massachusetts State Library call numbers have been indicated to facilitate reference.

All of the reports listed in the Index are available for reference purposes in the Massachusetts State Library. Many of the more recent documents are similarly available in the files of the Legislative Research Bureau.



A   W O R D   A B O U T  
T H E   R E S E A R C H   B U R E A U

Created by statute in 1954, the RESEARCH Bureau has provided a wide variety of professional staff services over the past 34 years. As a mere seedling in 1955, with only two staff assistants, it quickly established its presence and value, responding to nearly 100 legislative requests of moderate or major scope. By the second year of operation it had completed the first ten recess reports; in succeeding years these studies became a trademark of the Bureau's capacity to file a definitive report on virtually any subject of legislation.

But the RESEARCH Bureau is not an ivory tower operation; it moves about in the real world of everyday problems. Each week scores of telephone or written requests for information on literally every conceivable subject of legislation are received and acted upon. The RESEARCH Bureau is hooked into LEGISNET, a national database in Denver which stores thousands of research reports on current problems commanding legislative interest. The RESEARCH Bureau is also tied into WESTLAW which affords the staff access to all federal judicial decisions, the U.S. Code, the general statutes of most of the states, and a substantial body of law review publications. Most state legislatures have a staff agency similar to the RESEARCH Bureau and over the past 35 years, a warm and personal liaison has been established with these sister agencies. The result has been a more efficient and expeditious response to our inquiries on other state legislative approaches to common problems.

The RESEARCH Bureau keeps abreast of the latest technology that will improve our ability to serve the General Court. Our Fax machine enables us to send and receive documents that are urgently needed for legislative use. Our Xerox machine is capable of high speed reproduction to meet occasional requests for copies of documents in large numbers.

This is your RESEARCH Bureau; it is to your advantage to use it, knowing that by law it must serve you in a nonpartisan manner under the aegis of a bipartisan committee.

Although no longer quartered in the State House, the RESEARCH Bureau is no further away than your telephone (Centrex 2-2345; all others 617-722-2345).





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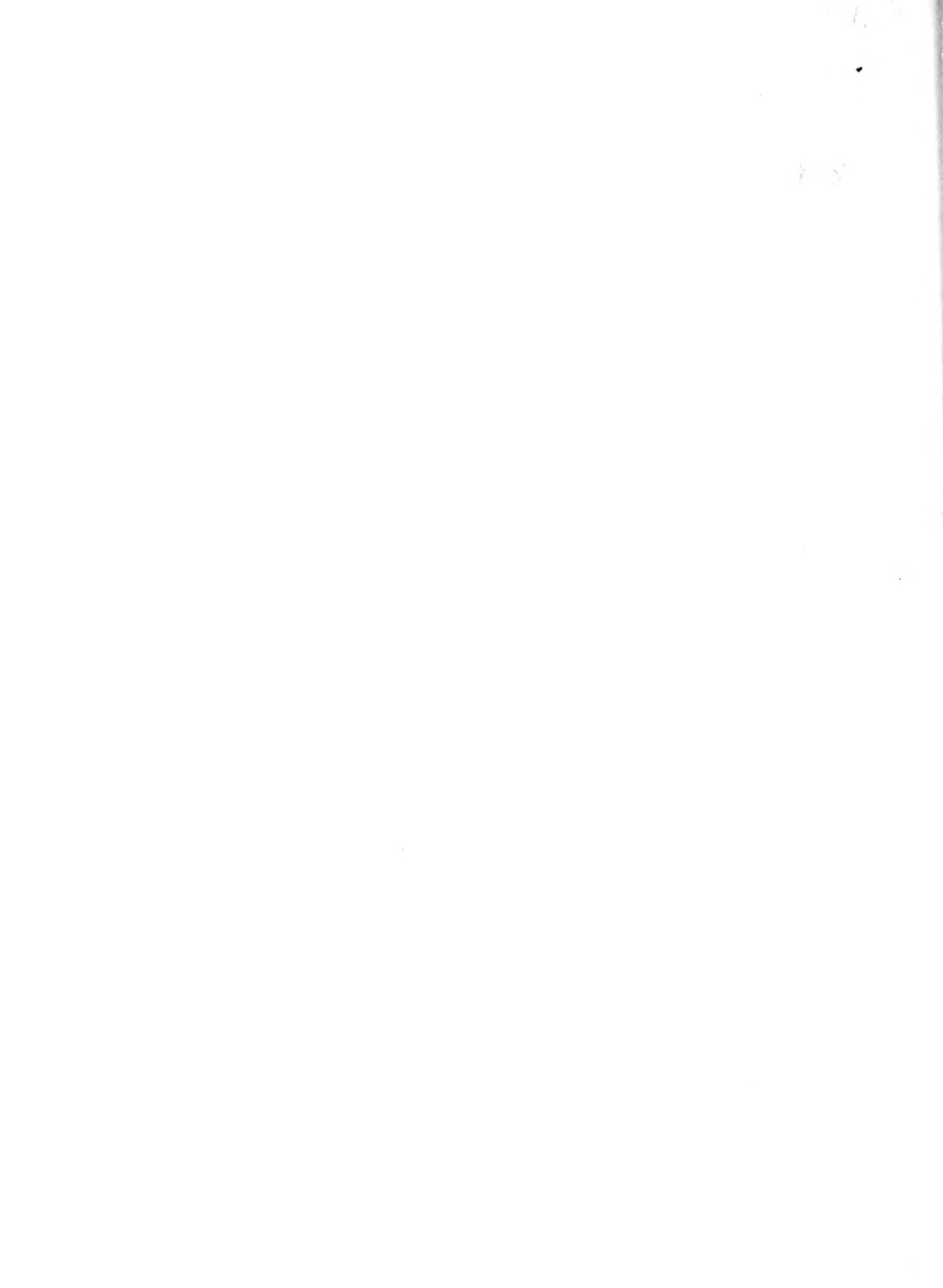
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